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SOCCER WORLD

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THE VOICE OF
AUSTRALIAN SOCCER

AUSTRALIA'S OLDEST AND ONLY INDEPENDENT SOCCER NEWSPAPER

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October 4, 1968.

Best in Australia

Red Tulip

CONTINENTAL
CHOCOLATES



Allan Marnoch and Keith Jones carry the Bisleri Cup on the Grand Final winners' traditional lap of honor after Hakoah's 4-2 victory over Pan Hellenic at the Sydney Sports Ground last Sunday. Pictured in the background of this jubilant group of players and youthful supporters are Willie Rutherford and Ian Hillsdon and Ray Baartz, holding on to another trophy.

Four out of four — this is Hakoah's fantastic Grand Final record after last Sunday. Watched by 22,111 spectators, Hakoah beat Pan Hellenic 4-2, adding this triumph to their Ampol Cup and championship victories. Still in the Australia Cup, Hakoah could make it a clean sweep. Though Pan Hellenic were very much in the match until the dying stages, there was never really any doubt Hakoah would clinch the Bisleri Cup. There was an air of inevitability about Hakoah's victory throughout the whole match which the Pan Hellenic fans were the first to recognize. As a result the tension and excitement usually associated with Grand Finals was missing though the pre-match atmosphere, largely thanks to Pan Hellenic's supporters, was the most colorful ever.

We're off to Mexico City

On Saturday, our News Editor Lou Gautier flies to Mexico City to cover for us the soccer segment of the Olympic Games.

He is one of only a handful of Sydney journalists going to Mexico with full Press accreditation.

"Soccer World" is the only Australian newspaper to have sent a staff man to all these major events: 1965 Asian soccer tour, the 1966 World Cup finals, the 1966 Asian Games, the 1968 European Champions' Cup final, and now the Mexico Olympics.

Lou Gautier's first reports will appear next week and then weekly until the end of the Olympics.

While in Mexico he'll also survey the sites of the 1970 World Cup finals, Mexico's next big sporting extravaganza.

His impressions will appear in our final issues for 1968 — another good reason why you should not miss a single copy of "SOCCER WORLD" until our annual summer recess in December.

Blow-up looming in Australian soccer

Australian soccer is almost certain to face its most serious schism since NSW broke away from the old Australian Soccer Association in early 1957.

Last weekend's ASF Extraordinary meeting was extraordinary in more than mere name.

The NSW and Victorian delegations, after failing to achieve a more favorable distribution of votes among the State Federations, walked out.

Later they issued a statement claiming that as from now "no decision by the ASF would be binding" for them.

The first reaction to this walk-out has come from Northern NSW who decided to call off their scheduled visit to Sydney on Sunday.

Another sequel was the resignation of Tom Grimson from the NSW Executive.

If there will be any blessing in this combined NSW-Victorian move, they are not immediately visible.

To start with, the Sydney public will be without soccer for two weekends as the Newcastle match is off and as Hakoah (Sydney) have been instructed by the ASF to play both their Australia Cup matches in Perth against Azzurri.

The fact that the Australia Cup rules stipulate a home and return arrangement for the semifinals has again been overlooked.

Several observers of the chaotic Australian soccer scene predict that the NSW and Victorian Federations will not unanimously endorse the action of their Executives.

In fact, NSW may have lit a short fuse which could explode in their own hands if the situation is not handled diplomatically.

● Details of two opposite statements on page 3.

NEWCASTLE'S VISIT TO SYDNEY IS OFF

Northern NSW has dramatically called off its scheduled Sydney visit next Sunday to meet NSW in a friendly match.

This is a sequel to last Sunday's ASF meeting at which NSW and Victoria came to loggerheads with the rest of Australia.

The Newcastle delegates voted against all NSW and Victorian motions, clearly taking the side of the "smaller States".

The Northern NSW decision may be a forerunner of a campaign to ostracise

Sydney and Melbourne Federations.

It appears to be a shortsighted decision by Newcastle, robbing Sydney fans of the chance to see an interesting match.

Instead of healing the wounds, this strange step by Newcastle officials is certain to widen the gap that unfortunately exists between the two NSW organisations.

WITH THE AMATEURS Fijians' farewell

The Fijian national team make their farewell appearance at Marks Field tonight (Wednesday, October 3) against a NSW Amateur XI which includes players from Sydney and Country centres Griffiths, Tamworth, Armidale, Gunnedah and Narrabri.

The colorful Fijians, whom we would have liked to see pitted against the full NSW representative side, won two out of their last three games in NSW.

Last Wednesday week they beat a reinforced Illawarra XI 4-3 at Dapto and last Saturday defeated Far North West NSW 5-2 at Gunnedah before losing 5-1 the next day to crack Newcastle club, Adams-town.

The visitors are sure to

please tonight with their unorthodox brand of soccer. Players to watch are centre-forward Josetaki, a prolific centre-forward who scored 12 goals so far on tour, centre-half Waisea and nippy right winger Nareyan.

Sydney fans unfortunately won't be seeing Fiji's experienced Datta in action tonight. Datta, who toured NSW with the Fijians in 1961, is badly hurt and requires a cartilage operation which may end his playing career.

ENMORE WELL PLACED IN PROMOTION SERIES

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

Enmore gained a 2-1 advantage over Guildford in the first leg of their play-off at the Marks Field last Sunday.

The teams will meet again on Sunday at Macarthur Park, with the best goal aggregate deciding which club will join Riverside Rapid in the 1969 Inter-Suburban First Division.

Enmore attacked with the blustery wind behind them, and led 1-0 at halftime.

They further increased the margin later, and Guildford did not reply until the dying minutes.

Neither team played up to their capability, but this week's game is the decider, and is very likely to turn out a closely fought affair.

As a result of their win over Sydney University, Penrith is best placed to hold their Second Division place.

The second leg will be played on Sunday week at Jamieson Park, Penrith.

"CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS"

There was plenty of action built into the

"Champion of Champions" finals at Allum Reserve last Sunday.

● North Rocks held a 3-0 lead in their under-18 final against Sans Souci, only to have the St. George team come good with five goals in the final 30 minutes to take the match.

● The Under-9 game was so close that Gladesville RSL outed Lakemba with the last kick of the match.

The referee stated that he had his whistle poised, and seven seconds remained when the ball went in.

● Miranda and Revesby Rovers played well in the Under-11 final. Miranda cracked home two goals in the last 10 minutes to take the game 2-1.

Winners in the series were: Senior: Earlwood, Under-18: Sans Souci, Under-16: Bankstown Thistle, Under-15: Bankstown Sports, Under-14: Belmore, Under-13: Lidcombe, Under-12: Revesby Rovers, Under-11: Miranda, Under-10: North Bankstown, Under-9: Gladesville RSL, Under-8: Sans Souci.

SNUB FOR GREEKS

A paltry \$500 a match is all the ASF is prepared to pay the Greek national team on its proposed Australian tour next year.

ASF vice-president, Arthur George, now in Athens, notified his executive the Greeks were willing to undertake a tour next winter at \$2,000 per match, plus travelling and living expenses.

The ASF Council, minus its NSW and Victorian delegates, however, last week bucked at the terms. Instead, they instructed Arthur George to negotiate on the basis of \$500 a game for a 10-day, three-match tour of the Greek national team.

Granted, the ASF will have to fork out the airfares and living expenses, but how reasonable is a \$500 match fee?

The Greek national team would fill Olympic Park in Melbourne and the Sydney Showground — there's no risk about that.

A match fee of \$2,000 seems modest enough for a team certain to fill the ASF's coffers — irrespective of the outlay involved in essential expenses.

To re-open negotiations and haggle over a paltry match fee is to insult our prospective guests.

— Lou Gautier

TOP COACH FOR SAINTS

The new St. George-Budapest coach for next season will be Ferenc Arok, at present coaching the brilliant Yugoslav First Division team Vojvodina.

Arok, aged 36, was born in Yugoslavia of Hungarian parents and is a qualified physical education master.

In the years 1960-1966 he coached another leading Yugoslav team, Novisad where Yugoslav Peter Banic also played.

Never a famous player himself, like so many fine coaches, Arok has gained full coaching diplomas in Yugoslavia and a "post-graduate" degree in Budapest.

Married with one daughter, Arok is also a sports journalist and as such attended the 1966 World Cup and is at present in Mexico City for the Olympics.

St. George-Budapest president Les Bordacs spoke with him on the telephone last Sunday and agreed on final terms.

Arok will arrive in Australia either in October or November to take up his post — a fulltime job.

SYDNEY CLUB PATROL

Despite the ASF's directive, Hakoah are adamant they won't play Australia Cup semifinals against Azzurri in Perth. The proposed dates of October 18 and 20 are totally unacceptable to the club, anyway, as Hakoah are holding their Annual Ball on Saturday, October 19. Hakoah have asked the ASF to stick by the rules and stage the first leg in Sydney, as originally planned, on October 13, and the return match in Perth the following Sunday. The ASF suggested both matches should be played in the one centre to save on airfares. They chose Perth as the venue because the WA Federation is prepared to put up a \$5,000 guarantee to cover any financial losses.

Sydney Second Division club GRANVILLE last Sunday played a 1-1 draw in Canberra with the ACT representative team. Williams scored for Granville, Campbell for the ACT. In early games, Granville's under-16 team played a 0-0 draw with their Canberra counterparts and the respective "veteran" sides also played a scoreless draw.

Australia's delegates at the FIFA CONGRESS in Guadalajara, Mexico, next week will seek the advice of FIFA assistant-secretary, Rene Courte, on how to reform and streamline the Australian Soccer Federation. Courte may even be asked to head a study committee to survey the multitude of anachronisms which have been the curse of Australian soccer for so long. How FIFA and Courte will react to this unusual request is the \$64,000 question...

The NEWCASTLE competition drew attendances 12 per cent greater than the 1967 figures. Informed opinion in Newcastle puts this down to the welcome arrangements for the match-of-the-day to be played at Adamstown Oval each Sunday. It is also apparent that Newcastle should always have centrally-located main games, instead of being the code which relies mainly on the outskirts for support.

CENTRAL COAST won the Northern Third Division competition this year, with a goal average of 89-24. This should give them a certain place in the Northern League Second Division for 1969. The club anticipates having a much improved ground available in the Gosford district. With a big junior district behind them, for the first time the Gosford area is starting to show its soccer paces.

GOOD SHOW!

The pre-match atmosphere last Sunday was the most colorful-ever at a soccer match in Sydney, possibly at any other football match for that matter.

Officials from both Pan Hellenic and Hakoah gave away pennants, flags, rosettes, streamers and paper flowers in the clubs' colors.

Pan Hellenic fans scattered hundreds of autographed photographs of Takis Loukanidis into the packed terraces.

Supporters carrying blue and white balloons enthusiastically escorted the teams on to the pitch while Pan Hellenic fans released pigeons before the kick-off; "doves of peace" as PA announcer Bill Kadison called them.

A Hakoah cheer squad of teenage girls in mini skirts and oversized soccer jerseys waved streamers as they led Hakoah on to the field.

Dozens of Pan Hellenic fans swarmed around their team waving placards, flags and streamers during the presentation of the teams to dignitaries and officials and

An Australian SCHOOL-BOYS' tour of the United Kingdom in January 1970 has been approved in principle by the ASF.

The following overseas clubs would be agreeable to TOUR Australia under the ASF's auspices in 1969 and 1970: West Bromwich Albion, Newcastle United, ADO (Holland), Munchen 1860, Rangers and Celtic, both of Glasgow.

Our First Division clubs may be unable to arrange interstate tours, but the so-called "small fry" seem to arrange them easily enough. Latest club travelling interstate this weekend is Fourth Division Inter-Suburban club, CHELSEA. They are taking their first and second teams down to Melbourne for two matches against their Victorian Metropolitan League namesakes.

Western Australian Federation president, Julius Re, will bring the MALAYSIAN national team to Australia in March next year. The 1968 Merdeka Tournament winners will be available for games against any State prepared to pay their match fee and accommodation costs. NSW and Victoria are unlikely to show any interest, but the Malaysians may play at least once against the Australian national team and also in Perth, Adelaide, Newcastle, Brisbane and Canberra.

An end-of-the-season dinner and cabaret will be held by the MARRICKVILLE Soccer Club at the Tempe Leagues Club on Saturday, October 12.

A record crowd attended the Annual GALA DAY at Mackay Park, Marrickville, last Saturday to watch the presentation of shields and trophies to junior teams. At

the end of the day a monster barbeque was held.

LANE COVE United will hold their presentation night this Friday at the Lane Cove Town Hall. Many local personalities are expected to attend.

JOE VENGLOS won't be moving next year. Last weekend he renewed his contract with Prague ending speculation he was about to join another club.

Last Sunday's Grand Final ATTENDANCE was the fourth biggest in Sydney club soccer history. The 22,111 spectator mark was only topped in the 1962, 1963 and 1964 Grand Finals.

Referee HAROLD PARSONS is bewildered at the news of his "retirement". He pointed out that as far as he knows he will be whistling again next season and had never even considered retiring.

The NSW Coaches' Federation AGM will take place on Monday, October 28, at the Western Suburbs Soccer Club, Bevin Avenue, Five Dock.

There'll be a big shake-up at APIA's Annual General Meeting next month. Vice-president VIC CAPELETTI, for one, won't be standing for re-election and president, Eddie Provera, still hasn't made up his mind to stand or not. Anyway, it seems certain there'll be many new faces out Leichhardt way in 1969.

JIM BAYUTTI and AUDEN BROWN, president and secretary of the NSW Federation, presented the Second Division trophies at Macarthur Park last Sunday.

The Adamstown v. SOUTH COAST UNITED "friendly" has also been called off as a result of last weekend's unsavoury developments within the Australian Soccer Federation. The "Miners" were to have visited Newcastle this long holiday weekend.

HEATHCOTE WANDERERS, the Sutherland Shire under-10 "C" team were premiers for the third consecutive season this year. In three years they only lost twice, both times in 1966. This season they won 52 games, drew eight, scored 225 goals and only conceded 17. Wanderers,

coached by Peter Coleman, won the "double" for the second year running. Heathcote's "mighty midgets" travel to Brisbane for two games this weekend.

The ASF still hasn't given up hope of obtaining a subsidy from the Australian GOVERNMENT for last year's Southeast Asian tour. ASF president, Sir William Walkley, will seek an interview with the Federal Treasurer, Billie McMahon, or the Minister of External Affairs, Paul Hasluck, for a grant.

BARRY SALISBURY, the former South Coast and NSW star has signed to coach Balgownie again next season despite a lucrative offer from another club.

MARIA MARTINELLI, 22, won the "Miss Malta in Sydney 1968" title at the Trocadero last Saturday night at the Annual Ball organised by the Maltese Guild of Australia (NSW). Most of Melita Eagles' committee and club members were present at the function. The title carries a first prize of a return trip to Malta for two and \$100 cheque.

Former APIA goalie, JOHN ROBERTS, is now a regular with English Fourth Division club Bradford City.

HAKOAH leave for their two-match New Caledonian tour on November 4. Their opponents in Noumea will be the full New Caledonian national team.

TONY BOSKOVIC was presented with his FIFA "pin" at a referees' dinner last Sunday night. He received the "pin" for refereeing three full "A" internationals. Other recipients are W. Bude (Perth) and Dave Maitland (Victoria).

IAN BRUSASCO, the Queensland delegate on the ASF executive, has been endorsed as the ALP candidate for a Brisbane constituency at the next Queensland State elections. Brusasco was personally endorsed by Clem Jones, Brisbane's famous mayor.

Applications close on November 4 for an advanced COACHING COURSE to be held on a date and venue to be decided soon. Applications in writing to Harry Prece, 19 Baliga Avenue, Caringbah, 2229.

COACHES 1969 SEASON

Applications are invited for the positions of coach and assistant coach of

**SUTHERLAND SHIRE SOCCER
FOOTBALL CLUB**
for 1969 season.

Details of experience and qualifications together with remuneration required to be forwarded not later than October 31, 1968 to:

Secretary, R. S. Miller,
59 Raglan Road, Miranda, NSW., 2228

— L.G.

TWO STATES v. A.S.F. FEUD — STATEMENTS

The open war between the Australian Federation and its two senior States, NSW and Victoria, this week became official.

Both sides issued a statement last Monday which we publish in full.

At this confusing stage, we are not making any comment about the issues involved.

However, we will return to the matter in future editions.

ASF STATEMENT

At the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Australian Soccer Federation held on 28th September, 1968, notices of motion lodged by Member Federations were tabled for consideration.

Following the defeat of notices of motion lodged by the NSW Federation of Soccer Clubs concerning the representation and voting powers, both the NSW and Victorian Federations on Saturday morning, September 28, 1968, sought permission to withdraw from the meeting until Sunday morning, September 29, in order to consult with their clubs for further instructions on the grounds that they had no authority from their Federation to proceed with the further items of business on the agenda.

Following the withdrawal of the NSW and Victorian delegations, Council on which the six remaining State Federations were represented continued to deal with the business of the agenda and the meeting was adjourned until 9.30 a.m. on Sunday.

At the continuation of the meeting on Sunday, two NSW delegates and the three Victorian delegates attended the meeting and after making a statement, without participation in any of the business, these five delegates left the meeting for a second time. On leaving, the five delegates were notified of Council intention to convene an Executive Committee Meeting after the closure of the Extraordinary General Meeting.

The Council of the Australian Soccer Federation deplores this action by delegates in withdrawing from a properly convened meeting, particularly as such meeting was convened at the original request of both the NSW and Victorian Federations.

The action of the five delegates was considered by the Council as conduct unbecoming of such delegates as well as prejudicial to the interests of the Australian Soccer Federation and the Executive Committee of the Australian Soccer Federation at its later meeting has directed the NSW and Victorian Federations to remove these delegates and replace them for the purpose of meetings of the Australian Soccer Federation.

Mr. T. Grimson, NSW delegate, who did not attend Sunday's adjourned meeting notified the Australian Soccer Federation in writing that he had resigned from the NSW Federation of Soccer Clubs and accordingly tendered his resignation as a delegate and Executive Member of the Australian Soccer Federation.

The Australian Soccer Federation Executive Committee has deferred any decision on Mr. Grimson's notification but has expressed its confidence in Mr. Grimson and will ask him to continue his services as Australian Soccer Federation Honorary Treasurer.

It is the opinion of Council that notices of motion, motivated by NSW, supported by Victoria, and designed to obtain control jointly in excess of 50% of the voting power of the Australian Soccer Federation at all times, were totally undemocratic and

therefore unacceptable to the remaining six State member Federations.

The Council is, however, also of the opinion that some review is needed of the structure of the voting of the Australian Soccer Federation and the representation of members to the Australian Soccer Federation and Council has therefore resolved that the matters in connection with the administration structure are now to be examined by a competent Committee of Study on which it was suggested that FIFA be represented.

Considering the poor attitude and action of the delegates of the NSW and Victorian Federations, and their obvious lack of concern for soccer's national development in Australia, it was decided by Council that all clubs in both NSW and Victoria be made fully aware of the present situation.

In respect of other business, the appointment of Mr. Tuting and Mr. I. Brusasco, as delegates for Australia to the forthcoming FIFA Congress was confirmed.

Council further unanimously expressed its confidence in these two delegates who left Sydney on Monday evening for Guadalajara.

Mr Tuting and Mr Brusasco in addition to representing Australia at the FIFA Congress and meetings with the World Cup Organising Committee will also represent, with New Zealand, the Oceania Football Confederation at these Mexico meetings.

Further Press announcements in connection with Council's adoption of various sub-committee recommendations will be made in due course after confirmation of various relative matters.

By Authority of Council
Ian A. McAndrew A.S.A.
General Secretary.

NSW-VICTORIAN STATEMENT

Minutes of the joint meeting of the NSW and Victorian Soccer Federations, Sydney, September 29.

Present from NSW: J. Bayutti, F. Parsons, S. Fisman; from Victoria: M. Weinstein, J. Oliphant, J. Barclay, E. Begovic.

The meeting has resolved the following points:

1. A summer pre-season interstate Cup series will be staged jointly by NSW and Victoria, as previously approved.

2. The two States will schedule interstate representative matches at senior and junior levels, as previously agreed.

3. An interstate club competition will be staged to replace the Australia Cup, the final form to be announced on November 30.

4. The two States will jointly sponsor a tour by New Caledonia in January 1969 with two matches scheduled for Sydney and one for Melbourne.

5. The two States accept an offer from the New Caledonian Association of a visit by a French team in May 1969 with one match apiece in Sydney and Melbourne.

6. The two States will employ the free services of Jim Bayutti and Michael Weinstein to negotiate with manager Helenio Herrera for a six-match tour by AS Roma to Sydney, Melbourne, New Caledonia and Tahiti.

7. The two States agree to enter into negotiations with any other top overseas clubs for similar future tours.

8. The two States will appoint a joint committee to

negotiate with sponsors for competitions at all levels.

9. The two States will organise through their Executives an overseas tour by a combined NSW-Victorian team.

10. The two States will jointly select full coaching

and managerial staffs for all the above representative activities as well as under-21, 18 and 16 teams.

11. The Chairman and secretaries of the two State Federations to remain in close contact to put the above operations in practice.

Bankstown youth shone brightly

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

Big news in Bankstown this season has been the further success in integrating the activities of the Bankstown club and the Association.

Bankstown is a district which is sure of its future, but which struck an array of problems which have taken time to sort out.

The district juniors are so strong that one or other of their clubs reached the semifinals of the Sydney "Champion of Champions" competition, except for under-9, and one Bankstown team in this grade only lost on corners.

There is not a representative competition this year in which Bankstown has not done well, but as Association president Eric Arneil concedes, other districts are improving at the same time.

Coaching in Bankstown is not a one-man band, as they have their own coaches body, but for success as a junior coach the record of Nelson Stiffle will be hard to beat.

He handled the under-14, 15 and 16 years District Representative League teams, and here are their performances:

Under-14: Runner-up in competition, won the Sydney and State Championships; Under-15: won the competition; Under-16: Won the competition, and the Sydney and State Championships.

Next year Nelson Stiffle will be leaving the position of senior coach to concentrate on the juniors.

What, then, will he achieve when he is working with the juniors alone!

SENIORS TOO

The list of players who have come through to success from the Bankstown district is a long one.

Ray Rootsey, Gary Manuel and Larry Armytage of Prague are all Bankstown-reared.

Pan Hellenic's young hopes Eddie Howell and Greg Byles came from the same ranks and some of the best Combined High Schools players are with the senior club.

These include Johnny Hargreaves, Ken Scully, Bobby Goose, who made Bankstown's firsts, and Steve Wilkes, who has recently played for the firsts in goals.

Two Bankstown stars this year were Cliff McDermott and Doug Turnbull, and apart from unfortunate injuries, they might well have helped the Towns to go higher on the Second Division table.

Advocates of the district

Club-Association set-up were greatly heartened when the key Bankstown-Wests match drew a 1,500 attendance at Bankstown Soccer Centre at the end of the season, and rate this as a pointer to things to come.

With a playing strength second to none in Sydney, and a monumental determination to find its place in the sun, Bankstown can look back on another great season, and better ones to come.

Secretary Phil Sleep is particularly proud of a few of the young teams.

In Bankstown, the winners of the lower divisions of the premiership go up a grade for the knock-outs.

Padstow United's under-7 Division II team won their premiership and the President's Cup, and then went up a grade to take their First Division KO, a remarkable accomplishment.

Greenacre under-12 Division IV took out the premiership and completed the treble also.

1968 premiers, with KO winners shown in parenthesis, were as follows for grades from A to under-14:

A grade Div. 1: Regents Park (North Bankstown), A grade Div. 2: Villawood Sports (Chester United), U/17: Villawood Sports (Chullora Juniors), U/16: Div. 1: Bankstown Thistle, (Condell Park), U/16 Div. 2: Revesby Rovers, (Bankstown Sports), U/15 Div. 1: Bankstown Sports, (Bankstown Sports), U/15 Div. 2: Condell Park, (North Bankstown), U/14 Div. 1: Bankstown Sports (North Bankstown), U/14 Div. 2: Revesby Workers (Bankstown Sports), U/14 Div. 3: Bankstown Sports (Condell Park).

SOCIAL EVENT

The big social event of the Bankstown season — the Annual Ball and crowning of the soccer "queen" will take place at Bankstown Square on Saturday night October 12.

Eleven "queens," representing soccer interests throughout the area, entered the competition.

On the football field, it was North Bankstown who excelled over the year, winning the club championship for the most premiership points and amongst their other awards was the coveted President's Cup, which goes to the club with the best record in the knock-out games.

Smalltalk

Normally we don't advocate changes just for their own sake; tradition is one thing our soccer lacks. But the annual post-championship "play offs" could do with an overhaul.

Originally soccer followed the semifinal system of the rugby codes, a rather involved and not terribly logical lead up to the Grand Final.

Then we changed to a round-robin, in order to ensure that all four clubs get at least three matches.

I would suggest these points for consideration: —

● We drop insane names such as semifinals or round-robin — and call the series the Federation Challenge Cup.

To meet the tag, we make it a challenge series by —

● Giving the team first in the championship an immediate place in the final.

● Arranging a round-robin between the second, third and fourth placed teams for the right to challenge them.

This series at least would have some meaning; the current one is purely a money-spinner.

If the Federation adopted this plan, we would no longer be compelled to continuously argue the relative merits of the championship and Grand Final winners; we would have two separate titles, such as champion and Challenge Cup winner.

We could also drop worthless expressions such as semifinals, Grand Final, round-robin, play-off, etc. — none of which are absolutely correct, anyway.

Bankstown United's junior segment and the Granville Junior Association both had their presentation days last Sunday afternoon.

Probably both were nice occasions with hundreds of happy boys lining up, receiving their pennants and cups and their proud parents broadly smiling in the background.

There is only one nagging thought: why did they have to pick Grand Final day for their social event? Can you imagine the North London Junior Association arranging such an afternoon on Cup Final day?

It must be assumed that at least a few dozen parents would have liked to watch the Sydney Grand Final. And it would not have done any harm to some of the boys either to be there and see what soccer is all about.

But they were robbed of this chance. Quite often we feel indignant when outside agencies or associations tactlessly interfere with our soccer timetable. Such as some Sunday afternoon telecasts of English soccer matches, for example.

But how can we seriously complain when our own junior organisations are guilty of the same mistiming?

As you all know, the clubs of Russia, Hungary, Poland, Bulgaria and East Germany have all withdrawn from the European Cup and Cupwinners' Cup in protest over UEFA's revised draw.

This was done after Celtic of Glasgow declared in writing that because of Czechoslovakia's occupation by the above five Warsaw Pact countries, they refuse to travel to Budapest to play Ferencvaros.

In a way Celtic's indignation was understandable. On the other hand, the withdrawal of the Russians etc., was predictable: they simply could not swallow this slap in the face.

But there is a curious aspect to all this: the teams from Czechoslovakia — the country that was actually occupied — have not withdrawn at all. Maybe the Russians forgot to tell them to do so...

This situation was pretty reminiscent of 1956 when, over the crushing of the Hungarian uprising by Soviet troops, the Dutch and Swiss teams withdrew from the Melbourne Olympic Games.

Yet both the Russians and the Hungarians took part...

— MIKE RENWICK

FAST FREQUENT FANTASTIC



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Speedy Scot's great display gave Hakoah classy win

— By PAUL DEAN —

Seldom is a player lucky enough to make a match-winning debut — yet this is exactly what Hakoah's lightning fast, delightfully clever new Scottish inside forward Willie Rutherford can claim to have achieved in last Sunday's Grand Final.

Playing only his first full match with the seniors, the smaller of the two gifted Rutherford brothers literally stamped Pan Hellenic's chances into the Sportsground's awful dust.

HAKOAH v. PAN HELLENIC 4-2 (2-2)

The match started in rather disappointing fashion and for the first 15 minutes neither team had even a shot at goal.

The tension was obvious from the unusually high number of elementary mistakes and one began to wonder where the probing ends and the soccer starts.

Omeros provided the only excitement in that sleepy period by testing the resilience of all Hakoah players he touched — and the patience of referee Boskovic.

After 20 minutes Omeros, still preoccupied with his private war, paid the supreme penalty for his inattention when he missed a clear chance from four yards.

UNGUARDED

Three minutes later Willie Rutherford — not yet fully tuned up for the big things to come — also missed his chance when he tried to round the goalie after a solo run — and lost the ball.

One minute later Hakoah were in the lead. Following a short goalkick came a fantastic mix-up between McCulloch and Clarke; both fell on the ground and Willie Rutherford contemptuously whacked the ball into the unguarded net.

The tempo picked up noticeably, the game sprung alive.

Counting on the benevolent assistance of a strong wind, Loukanidis let go a sudden snapshot from 35 yards in the 26th minute; Fuzes dived too late and could only push it into the corner of the net for the equaliser.

But Hakoah gradually gained the upper hand; Yaeger did his usual prompting, Walsh tackled anything within sight, Baartz roamed the field like an underfed tiger and the two Rutherfords began to assert their speed and authority.

In the 38th minute Willie Rutherford was through again; darting at tremendous speed at inside right he burst through the defence then grandly slipped the ball to Watkiss in the

goalmouth for Hakoah's second goal.

But Pan Hellenic didn't fancy to take tea with a one goal deficit and pressed hard in the dying minutes of the half.

In the 42nd minute an outwinger corner by Blitz was jointly headed down by Loukanidis and Smith; the Hakoah defenders were slow to react and there was Omeros, fishing in turbulent waters, to spoon the ball in from a yard for the equaliser.

Hakoah were unchanged in the second half but Hellenic, obviously realising that the team wasn't clicking, dropped Henson for Patrinos who came in at the left flank while Omeros withdrew to left half.

It was remarkable that Pan Hellenic had the greater share of the ball — without looking really dangerous.

On the other hand, every Hakoah counterpunch, usually executed with great speed, filled the Hellenic defenders with terror.

In the 62nd minute Baartz burst through after an interpassing move with Jones but missed.

In the 75th minute full-back Fekete had his old hunting instincts back for a colossal dash on the wing; his cross just slipped across the goalmouth.

ARCHITECT

One minute later Watkiss sped through in the middle and though Cole dragged him back by the arm, got his shot in but it went wide.

Boskovic, quite correctly, waved play on using the advantage rule though the foul was well inside the box. Just when extra-time loomed as a clear possibility, Willie Rutherford decided against it.

With six minutes to go he flew down the left wing, turning Johnston's red hair into gray, sent in a lovely low cross just past Clarke's reach and had the satisfaction of watching brother Harry slamming in Hakoah's third goal.

In the 88th minute Loukanidis could have equalised but his header,

from five yards, went to Fuzes.

Right on fulltime came Hakoah's fourth goal. The architect was against Willie Rutherford who outsped the Pan Hellenic defence, centred — and watched with considerable pleasure as Johnston pushed the ball into his own net.

POLISHED

There can be little doubt that Hakoah fully deserved their win. Their display was polished, thoughtful and infinitely more skilful than Pan Hellenic's.

The Hakoah players always on the move, running into the open spaces, pushing and flicking the passes into the gaps.

In sharp contrast, most of the Hellenic passes went directly to the players' feet, slowing down the movements and making their attack cumbersome.

Westwater's most disappointing display as well as Loukanidis' circumspect, retired-colonel-style football left their hallmark on Pan Hellenic.

Once again Westwater proved to those few who still didn't know that he is not a spearhead and never will be one.

Playing a vaguely defined role chiefly in the

forward line, all his weaknesses and none of his assets came to the surface.

Loukanidis, apart from a few fine touches, was slow and caught in possession far too often.

Without blaming these two, I am convinced that their indifferent displays contributed greatly to Hellenic's nemesis.

Hakoah, as usual, were a team in the true sense of the word.

They decided to play their normal game regardless of Hellenic's tactics, concentrating on moving the ball with precise passes alternated with long crosses.

Referee Tony Boskovic, in his sixth consecutive Grand Final, gave a faultless display.

Details: Hakoah: Fuzes; Fekete, Marnoch, Hillsdon; Walsh, Yaeger; H. Rutherford, W. Rutherford, Watkiss, Baartz, Jones.

Pan Hellenic: Clarke; Johnston, Cole, Hignett; McCulloch, Henson (Patrinos); Blitz, Smith, Loukanidis, Westwater, Omeros.

Goals: W. Rutherford 24 min.; Watkiss 38 min.; H. Rutherford 84 min.; Johnston 90 min. (o.g.) for Hakoah; Loukanidis 26 min.; Omeros 42 min. for Pan Hellenic.

Referee: A. Boskovic. Crowd: 22,111.



Willie Rutherford, the hero of Hakoah's record-shattering fourth Grand Final triumph, is seen here giving the slip once again to a Pan Hellenic defender, in this instance fellow Scotsman, Allan Hignett. Rutherford scored a goal and had a hand in the other three. The elusive will-o'-the-wisp speedster presented Pan Hellenic with an unsurmountable problem and ran rings round their usually solid defenders throughout last Sunday's match.

Brothers steal show from famous stars

— By LOU GAUTIER —

"Wee Willie" Rutherford, the bargain signing of the season, was the hero of Hakoah's fourth Grand Final win.

Together with brother Harry, he played havoc with the Pan Hellenic defence and earned himself a niche in Sydney's soccer "hall of fame".

Hakoah were also well served by their defence en bloc, but in Pan Hellenic only John Cole and Brian Smith survived with intact reputations.

This is how I saw the players and referee perform in the 1968 Grand Final:

WATKISS fought his guts out, but the ball didn't roll too kindly for him. His height, however, in the vital mid-field duels for possession played a part in Hakoah's victory.

BAARTZ, still struggling to regain touch, had a "quiet" game and was rarely able to get one of his devastating shots through. Like all his team-mates, however, he ran himself to the ground.

JONES often had his direct opponents at sixes and sevens and made some dangerous openings, but didn't play quite as well as in the round-robin.

PAN HELLENIC

CLARKE, with the exception of the first goal, could hardly be blamed for any of the goals though he never reached any heights.

JOHNSTON lacked his usual rugged determination — without which he is reduced to a very ordinary level.

HIGNETT was overworked marking the elusive Rutherford and was far too busy defending to join up in attack as he usually does.

MCCULLOCH failed to reproduce his excellent recent form and must shoulder the blame for the first goal. He was unusually tentative and never held any sort of mid-field grip.

COLE came out on top of his duel with Watkiss and was one of the rare Pan Hellenic players who wasn't run off his feet.

HENSON was far from being the worst player on the field in the first half and his replacement was a surprise.

PATRINOS, Henson's substitute, contributed little to the game because he had a tendency to back-pedal.

BLITZ, always the ball-player of the Pan Hellenic forward-line, had a few clever runs down the middle, but lacked any sort of support to be effective.

SMITH won our admiration. He never stopped trying, bobbed up everywhere trying to rally his dishevelled team-mates, but the odds were stacked against this true gentleman of Sydney soccer.

LOUKANIDIS became an instant, if only temporary, hero with his superb goal — the best of the match. Active and constructive for 70 minutes, he faded towards the end and "sunk" with the Hellenic ship at the finish.

WESTWATER will want to forget this match in a hurry. He couldn't take a trick and was a shattering disappointment in a role totally unsuited to his talents and temperament.

OMEROS was lucky to see the match through. He might have scored a goal, but will be mainly remembered for his dangerous play, especially in the first half.

Referee TONY BOSKOVIC once again proved his capacity for making a difficult game look easy. Always in control, he played the advantage rule superbly.

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MEXICO 68

HOME TEAM IS MY TIP FOR CROWN

— By Lou Gautier, leaving this weekend for Mexico City —

Mexico, Spain, Hungary and Bulgaria are my tips to win the preliminary Olympic groups in Mexico, which starts on Sunday, October 13.

This quartet should be joined by group runners-up Colombia, Japan, Ghana and Czechoslovakia in the quarterfinals which will be played on Sunday, October 20.

The world soccer press is unanimous that Mexico and Hungary are the hot favorites for the soccer gold medal.

I concur fully, but where I beg to differ is that Czechoslovakia is almost on the same line of favoritism as the Mexicans and the Hungarians.

This would certainly have been so without the events in Czechoslovakia which must have seriously affected the team's preparations and undermined their morale.

Steady Bulgarians

The Czechs' participation at the Olympics was until recently uncertain and it's only three weeks ago that they resolved to compete after it had been a distinct possibility they would forfeit as a result of their country's occupation.

The Czechs may be somewhat unsettled. For that reason I selected the steadier, better prepared Bulgarians, who will field no less than eight of their 1966 World Cup players, as Group "D" winners, ahead of the Czechs, who will, however, still advance into the quarterfinals as no matter how unprepared and shaken, couldn't possibly lose against their other group opponents, Guatemala and Thailand.

Group "B" is the most open of the four, what with no clear favorite emerging from Spain, Brazil, Japan and Nigeria.

You can forget about the Nigerians, not even a major power in African soccer, but Spain, Brazil and Japan are hard to separate.

If I give Spain the nod it's because of their greater international experience. They have played dozens of matches over the past 18 months against fellow amateurs throughout Europe and, in addition, the distinct Spanish atmosphere and influence in Mexico must help them adapt much quicker than the other non-South or Central American sides.

This group will be the one I'll follow the most closely at the Games because of Japan's presence.

Australia's World Cup adversaries must stand a good chance of reaching the last eight, Brazil notwithstanding.

The rapidly improving Japanese defeated the Argentinian amateurs at the 1964 Olympics.

Their soccer has improved out of sight since, and though they won't have the advantage of their home surroundings and crowd this time, they can do an "Argentina" to Brazil, South Americans being amongst the weakest amateurs in the world because every player there turns professional in his teens if he shows even above average ability.

Mexico should romp home in Group "A".

Superbly trained, their Olympic team is not that far behind their full "A" team, and have impressed foreign observers with an imposing string of successes over the past two years.

Colombia, fielding their full national team — an all-professional outfit (!) — must be favored to get through to the quarterfinals.

France, Western Europe's top amateur side with Spain, are only fielding true-blue amateurs and their lack of big-time experience could tell against them.

Guinea have no hope whatsoever in this Group. Hungary have no worthwhile opposition in Group "C" and could register a cricket score against El Salvador, making their first appearance in the final stages of any competition.

Toss-up

Ghana and Israel will also be hard pressed to avoid big defeats against a team which will include players of the calibre of Varga, one of Europe's most brilliant young players today as well as other internationals such as Szucs, Pancsics, Fazekas, Novak, Mencil and the free-scoring Dunai.

Second place is a toss-up between Ghana, who owe their berth in the tournament to Morocco's late withdrawal, and Israel, whose rare international successes have been achieved in Asian competition.

I'll watch the Israelis — also in connection with Australia's World Cup elimination commitments.

Should the teams finish the way I predict in the round-robin, the quarterfinal draw will be: Mexico v. Japan, Spain v. Colombia, Hungary v. Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria v. Ghana.

If this comes to pass it wouldn't surprise me if the semifinal pairings were

Mexico v. Hungary and Colombia v. Bulgaria.

From the draw it is obvious that the first two placings in Group "D" will have a big bearing on further developments as the winner of this group is assured of avoiding the formidable Mexicans and Hungarians until the final, which could be Mexico v. Bulgaria, unless of course the Czechs are able to stage a quick moral and physical recovery after the perturbed events in their country.

I have a strong feeling that soccer will bring Mexico its only gold medal at the Olympics.

I pick them to beat

Hungary should they meet in the semis — and it appears inevitable they will — because the home ground advantage and conditions will play a decisive role in the tournament.

Besides, I feel there is a lesser gap in standard between the full Mexican national team and their "amateur" side than with the Hungarians, whose full "A" team was unable to beat its Mexican counterparts late last year in Mexico.

These, of course, are merely suppositions.

The truth could be totally different. Only time will tell — 5:15 p.m. on October 26 to be precise!

FULL DRAW OF TOURNAMENT

The Groups in Mexico are:

GROUP "A"

Mexico
Colombia
France
Guinea

GROUP "B"

Spain
Brazil
Japan
Nigeria

GROUP "C"

Hungary
El Salvador
Ghana
Israel

GROUP "D"

Czechoslovakia
Bulgaria
Thailand
Guatemala

PRELIMINARY ROUNDS:

Sunday, October 13

Mexico v. Colombia (Mexico City)
France v. Guinea (Puebla)
Hungary v. El Salvador (Guadalajara)
Ghana v. Israel (Leon)

Monday, October 14

Spain v. Brazil (Mexico City)
Japan v. Nigeria (Puebla)
Czechoslovakia v. Guatemala (Guadalajara)
Bulgaria v. Thailand (Leon)

Tuesday, October 15

Mexico v. France (Mexico City)
Colombia v. Guinea (Puebla)
Hungary v. Ghana (Guadalajara)
El Salvador v. Israel (Leon)

Wednesday, October 16

Spain v. Nigeria (Mexico City)
Brazil v. Japan (Puebla)
Bulgaria v. Czechoslovakia (Guadalajara)
Thailand v. Guatemala (Leon)

Thursday, October 17

Mexico v. Guinea (Mexico City)
Colombia v. France (Puebla)
Hungary v. Israel (Guadalajara)
El Salvador v. Ghana (Leon)

Friday, October 18

Spain v. Japan (Mexico City)
Brazil v. Nigeria (Puebla)
Czechoslovakia v. Thailand (Guadalajara)
Bulgaria v. Guatemala (Leon)

All these matches will kick off at 3:30 p.m. local time, except the Sunday, October 13, games, which start at 12 noon.

QUARTER-FINALS:

- (1) Winner Group "A" v. Second Group "B" (Mexico City)
- (2) Winner Group "B" v. Second Group "A" (Puebla)
- (3) Winner Group "C" v. Second Group "D" (Guadalajara)
- (4) Winner Group "D" v. Second Group "C" (Leon)

— Played on Sunday, October 20, at 12 noon, —

SEMI-FINALS:

— Played on Tuesday, October 22, at 3:30 p.m. —
1 v. 3 at Mexico City; 2 v. 4 at Guadalajara.

THIRD PLACE PLAY-OFF

On Thursday, October 24, at Mexico City at 3:30 p.m.

FINAL:

On Saturday, October 26, at Mexico City at 3:30 p.m.

Japan poised to cause some shocks

Australian fans will follow Japan's progress at the Olympic Games with more than just passing interest.

Not only because Japan paid us a visit earlier this year and tied a three-match series, but especially since Australia will have to overcome the Japanese hurdle if we are to have another shot at North Korea for a berth in the 1970 World Cup finals.

This is why we feel that the following interview with the Japanese national team coach, Shunichiro Okano, which appeared in the Swedish sports newspaper IDROTTSBLADET while Japan was touring Europe in August, would be of interest.

CLIMBING

Q. How do you truthfully rate Japan in the hierarchy of world soccer at this moment?

A. Since 1964, which in many ways marked the birth of Japanese soccer, I am convinced Japan hasn't stopped climbing up the hypothetical soccer ladder. Five years ago Japan was a nobody. We just didn't rate. Now I think Japan can claim the number two spot in Asia, just behind North Korea, and I don't think I'm being immodest when I rate Japan on a par with European nations such as Norway, Finland or Turkey.

Q. What do you expect to prove at the Olympics?

A. Japan goes into the final tournament with high hopes of doing at least as well as in 1964 when we reached the quarterfinals. Admittedly we were then playing at home, but I think Japanese soccer has improved sufficiently in the last four years to do as well, if not better, on foreign soil. I don't say we can win a medal in Mexico, but I am convinced we won't suffer any disastrous defeats.

Q. Japan, as you said, just didn't rate five years ago. How, then, do you explain the spectacular rise of Japanese soccer?

A. Soccer has existed in Japan for many years, but it was only when the 1964 Olympics were awarded to Japan that the country's top brass decided to take positive steps towards improving the standard of some of the major Olympic sports. In 1960 it was decided that soccer and hockey must be given a new impetus.

Q. How was this made possible? What means were used to modernise Japanese soccer?

A. The Japanese FA scoured Europe for a man to whom they could entrust the mammoth task of elevating the country's soccer.

They were lucky they found such a person in the German Dettmar Cramer.

Japanese soccer is his creation, just as I am what I am today because of him. Cramer not only built a national team from scratch, he reorganised the whole base of the sport in our country, introduced new ideas and, what's more important, made certain they were implemented. If I owe it to Cramer, together with two other Japanese players, also nearing the end of their playing careers, he sent us to study coaching in Europe, then handed me the torch when his work in Japan was done.

Q. Do you still adhere to Cramer's methods and principles?

A. Yes, rigorously. I still keep in touch with him personally and we exchange a continuous flow of opinions. He is also gracious enough to invite me every year to the coaching academy he conducts in Germany. This way I keep abreast of the latest developments in soccer.

Q. Japan has also entered the World Cup. What are your chances of qualifying and returning to Mexico in 1970?

A. First let me inform you that contrary to what most people think this is not Japan's first venture in the World Cup. We first entered in 1954. Though we played both our qualifying matches in Japan against South Korea we were eliminated. May I add that I was in the Japanese squad then, but wasn't selected for either match. Japan's task in the next World Cup will be much more difficult than at the Olympic Games. First we have to beat Australia and South Korea, then get over North Korea. A tough assignment, but we can do it, especially if we improve over the next 12 months at the same rate as in the past four years.

ASTOUNDED

Q. Were you surprised at North Korea's 1966 World Cup campaign?

A. Astounded, I was even surprised they qualified at Australia's expense because then I was under the impression the Australians were much stronger. I never expected the Koreans to do nearly as well in England. Frankly, I thought they would lose every match heavily, especially against Italy. I was staggered when they beat them and reached the quarterfinals. The Koreans have set a high standard for the other Asian teams to follow. It may take Japan another three or four World Cups, despite our gradual improvement, to go so far in a World Cup competition.

Q. What was the highlight of your short coaching career?

A. Qualifying for the Olympics. When Japan drew with South Korea 0-0 to clinch a berth in the finals I felt indescribably happy.

Q. And your greatest ambition?

A. In the immediate future to reach at least the quarterfinals at the Olympics. In a few years hence to see Japan firmly implanted as a world soccer power capable of holding its own against the great soccer nations like England, Brazil, Germany and Italy. My greatest thrill however, and I am convinced I will see the day, is for the World Cup to be staged in Japan. Soccer then would have come to Japan to stay.

This is where the medals went since soccer became an Olympic sport in 1908:

- 1908: 1 Great Britain; 2 Denmark; 3 Holland.
1912: 1 Great Britain; 2 Denmark; 3 Holland.
1920: 1 Belgium; 2 Spain; 3 Holland.
1924: 1 Uruguay; 2 Switzerland; 3 Sweden.
1928: 1 Uruguay; 2 Argentina; 3 Italy.
1932: event not held.
1936: 1 Italy; 2 Austria; 3 Norway.
1948: 1 Sweden; 2 Yugoslavia; 3 Denmark.
1952: 1 Hungary; 2 Yugoslavia; 3 Sweden.
1956: 1 USSR; 2 Yugoslavia; 3 Bulgaria.
1960: 1 Yugoslavia; 2 Denmark; 3 Hungary.
1964: 1 Hungary; 2 Czechoslovakia; 3 Germany.



Estudiantes one-up

Estudiantes de la Plata are one-up in the Intercontinental Cup. The Argentinians defeated Manchester United 1-0 at home last week. The return game is at Old Trafford on October 16. Previous Intercontinental Cup winners since the series' inception: 1960: Real Madrid (Spain), 1961: Penarol (Uruguay), 1962: Santos (Brazil), 1963: Santos (Brazil), 1964: Inter Milan (Italy), 1965: Inter Milan (Italy), 1966: Penarol (Uruguay), 1967: Racing Buenos Aires (Argentina).

Welsh rare bit

Swansea Town, the Welsh club, are having a boom time. After eight matches they were still unbeaten and their home gates averaged over 10,000 — double of last year's figures.

Massive business

These figures reveal just what a big business football is in English Football League. Last season there were 322 transfers between League clubs — and the average fee was \$30,000 despite the fact that almost half of the deals were \$11,000 or less. Only three transfers exceeded the \$200,000 mark.

New Nurnberg trials?

After having started the new season with two defeats, West German champions FC Nurnberg boss Max Merkel, an Austrian of "Prussian toughness", decided to take the kids gloves off: he took his whole squad into the club's training camp — for a whole month, refusing permission for the players to even visit their families. Since then Nurnberg has started its slow climb up the ladder — but the players are fuming at their boss.

Gold-diggers punished

Professionalism with its big bonus lures is causing havoc in Yugoslavia. After the first three rounds a staggering number of 40 First Division players have been sent off or cautioned by referees.

Friendly tours

During the break in the Hungarian championship because of the Olympic Games, most leading teams will play friendly matches. Ujpest and Ferencváros will play in France, Vasas and Szombathely in Austria, Egyetertes in Yugoslavia.

Crazy experiment

"Name your team and my national side will play against it", said recently Poland Manager Richard Konciewicz to the ever critical pressmen of his country. The match duly took place — and ended in a 5-1 fiasco for the full national team. Now the Press suggest Konciewicz should resign.

Greek status symbol

Only seven of the 18 First Division Greek clubs have Greek coaches. Yugoslav coaches are all the rage in Greece and number eight in Division I. An Englishman, a Hungarian and a Portuguese are in charge of the other three teams in top company. Stefan Bobek's success with Panathinaikos of Athens two seasons ago paved the way for the mass influx of foreign coaches and it has become something of a status symbol in Greek soccer to have a foreign coach nowadays.

Construction workers are toiling round the clock to complete the Puebla Stadium in time for the first round-robin match on October 13 between France and Guinea. All other soccer venues are ready for the Games except the 35,000-capacity Puebla ground. The playing surface is ready, but on September 10 the terraces were only half completed and the pressbox foundations still hadn't been excavated.

● Italy's first international match since winning the European Championship in June will be against Wales in Cardiff on October 23 in a World Cup elimination match.

● John Adams, chief FA coach for the Northern region of England is in charge of Canada's preparations for next year's World Cup elimination ties against the USA and Bermuda.

● The Pakistan FA has been suspended by FIFA for non-payment of annual subscription and levies to FIFA. Consequently the Pakistanis are also suspended from the Asian Football Confederation.

● Commandante Lauro, the multi-millionaire shipping magnate has stepped down as FC Napoli's president. The Neapolitan club's new president is Italy's youngest — 34-year-old Renato Fiore.

● Brazzaville, the capital of the former French Congo, will inaugurate a 100,000-capacity stadium on November 3. Brazzaville's population is only 350,000 and the whole country has 850,000 people!

● John Madsen, the Danish stopper who caused a stir by walking out on Hibernians, has been barred from ever playing for another Scottish club.

● Noel Cantwell, the Coventry City manager, resigned as Eire's team boss because of pressure of business.

● Nandor Hidegkuti, the former star forward has left his coaching post with the Budapest club MTK and joined the Second Division Spartacus as special technical advisor.

● The Yugoslav junior international team beat its West German counterpart 4-1 — at Augsburg.

● Italy and France will meet in a full international before Christmas twice this year — once in New York, once in San Francisco, as both teams will be on North American tours.

● Derek Dougan, Wolverhampton's colorful Irish forward, has written his memoirs.

Filipino National League

The first national championship kicks off in the Philippines this month. Manila will have four teams in the eight-club semi-professional league. There has been organized soccer in the Philippines since 1924, but it's only since 1964 that soccer has made any headway in a country where the sport still doesn't rate too highly and takes a back seat to basketball, baseball and jai-alai. The Filipino national league clubs will all be backed by business houses and large firms, and players will carry the names of their sponsors' products on their backs.

● The sixth European Cup for veterans kicked-off last week with eight competing teams: Racing Paris, Anderlecht, Munchen 1860, Servette Geneva, Real Madrid, Aosta (combining former Milan and Turin stars), Feyenoord and Djugaarden.

● As a result of a fist fight between Torino's coach, Edmondo Fabbri, and his centre-forward, Nestor Combin, after Torino lost 1-0 in a European Cup-Winners' Cup match in Tirana, Albania, the French international was fined \$1,500 — the biggest fine imposed on a player in Italy since 1960.

● Honved of Budapest have called off their visit to Hong Kong. They'll be replaced by Odense Boldklub of Denmark in seven weeks' time.

● Among the 55,000 Czechoslovaks who haven't returned home or have fled the country since the Soviet occupation there are 74 soccer players, including 17 First Division stars, and seven coaches, among whom national team-manager-elect, Frantisek Bafka.

● Vandalism at British grounds is still causing concern. The latest victims were Tranmere Rovers — George Yardley's club — where vandals have partly wrecked the brand new \$170,000 grandstand.

● Asked if he missed the London life, replied Tommy Docherty, now with Rotherham: "I could settle down anywhere, even Vietnam, if there was football there."

● Burnley have announced that they will not allow more players to leave the club this season.

● Former Spanish international fullback Pachin has left Real Madrid to join Betis of Seville.

Another Matthews?

Julio Abbadie, Uruguay's right wing star in the 1954 World Cup, is still in amazing form — at 38. Abbadie plays for Penarol, the top Uruguayan club. From 1956 to 1964 he was in Italy with various teams.

Scott Symon moves again

Partick Thistle have signed former Ranger team-manager Scott Symon. Symon has been with Second Division Dumbarton for the past months and has the job ahead of him at Partick Thistle, off to a poor First Division start. In other Scottish news, Hibernians' centre-forward, Stein, is seeking a transfer because he wants more money to get married, and at Celtic, star winger Johnstone will cop a three-match suspension if he receives another caution. This is the penalty in Scotland if a player is cautioned three times in three months. Johnstone's name has already been taken twice.

The Russians are going?

The Russians are threatening to quit the UEFA, Europe's ruling soccer body, over the amended draws in the European Cups. Said Valentin Granatkin, the FIFA vice-president, in a recent issue of "Soviet Sport": "The UEFA acted illegally and played politics. The Russians and their friends don't intend to be victimised. Unless the UEFA changes its policies and adopts FIFA's line of conduct, the Russian FA will withdraw from the European body, which will then fall apart and become extinct".

SCOREBOARD

WORLD CUP (qualifying): Yugoslavia v. Finland 9-1; Denmark v. Czechoslovakia 0-3.

INTERCONTINENTAL CUP (first leg): Estudiantes de la Plata (Argentina) v. Manchester United 1-0 (Buenos Aires).

CUPWINNERS' CUP: Hibs (Malta) v. Salonika (Greece) 0-6.

INTERNATIONALS: USA v. Israel 3-3 (New York); France v. West Germany 1-1 (Marseille).

BULGARIA: Spartak Sofia v. Spartak Plevne 0-0; Dobroudja v. Beroe 0-0; Lokomotiva Plovdiv v. CSKA 3-4; Miners v. Lokomotiva Sofia 2-1; Donnav v. Slavia Sofia 0-1; Cernomore v. Botev Vratza 1-0; Marek v. Cernomoretz 3-1; Levski Sofia v. Trakia 3-0. **Table:** CSKA 13; Levski 11; Lokomotiva Plovdiv, Slavia Sofia 10; Cernomore 9; Spartak Sofia 8.

EAST GERMANY: Riesa v. Rostock 0-0; Wismut v. Halle 4-1; Karlmarxstadt v. Vorwarts Berlin 2-2; Erfurt v. Lokomotiva Leipzig 3-0; Chemie Leipzig v. Union Berlin 1-2; Magdeburg v. Jena 0-0; Dynamo Berlin v. Zwickau 1-1. **Table:** Rostock, Wismut 9; Vorwarts Berlin, Chemie Leipzig, Zwickau, Magdeburg, Union Berlin 7.

FRANCE: Rennes v. Red Star 1-1; Valenciennes v. Nantes 0-0; Nimes v. Metz 0-0; Marseille v. Sedan 4-1; Rouen v. Sochaux 2-1.

HOLLAND: DOS v. Ajax 1-1; Volendam v. Fortuna 3-1; Holland Sport v. Sparta 1-1; Telstar v. NAC 1-1; Twente v. Go Ahead 4-1; Feyenoord v. GVAV 3-0.

MVU v. ADO 1-2; DWS v. AZ '67 2-0; NEC v. PSV 1-1.

ITALY (first round): Atalanta v. Juventus 3-3; Bologna v. Varese 1-0; Cagliari v. Palermo 3-0; Vicenza v. Inter Milan 0-1; Milan v. Sampdoria 1-0; Napoli v. Verona 1-1; AS Roma v. Fiorentina 1-1; Torino v. Pisa 1-0.

PORTUGAL: Sanjoanense v. Benfica 0-2; Sporting v. Guimaraes 0-0; Leixoes v. Porto 0-1; Varzim v. Academica 1-2; Braga v. Tomar 2-1; Setubal v. Belenenses 1-1; Atletico v. CUF 1-1.

RUMANIA: Progresul Bucharest v. Petrolul Ploesti 0-1; Dinamo Bucharest v. Politehnica Iassy 4-1; Farul Constantza v. Rapid Bucharest 4-1; Mures v. Steaua Bucharest 3-2; Vagonul UT Arad v. Craiova 4-4; Dinamo Bacau v. Crisul Oradea 1-0; Jiul Petrosani v. UT Arad 1-1. **Table:** Farul Constantza, Craiova, UT Arad 9; Dinamo Bucharest 8.

SPAIN: Pontevedra v. Atletico Madrid 0-0; Zaragoza v. Valencia 3-1; Elche v. Sabadell 3-0; Real Madrid v. Cordoba 2-0; Malaga v. Bilbao 4-0; Granada v. Sociedad 0-0.

SWITZERLAND: Lugano v. Winterthur 3-0; Lucerne v. Grasshoppers 2-2; St. Gallen v. Biel 1-1; Servette Geneva v. FC Basel 0-2; Sion v. Belinzone 4-0; Young Boys v. Lausanne 4-3; FC Zurich v. Chaux-de-Fonds 6-2.

YUGOSLAVIA: OFK v. Rijeka 5-0; Sarajevo v. Vojvodina 2-3; Radnicki v. Red Star 2-1; Olimpija v. Dinamo Zagreb 0-0; Proleter v. Vardar 0-1; Bor v. Celik 1-1; Hajduk v. Velez 1-1; Zagreb v. Maribor 1-1.

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MELBOURNE PAGE...

EDITED BY BOB LOW

HELLAS STILL CHASING ELUSIVE CUP SUCCESS

South Melbourne Hellas have reached the Dockerty Cup final for the second time and, looking for their first success in any cup competition, should start off favorites at Olympic Park on Sunday.

They have played much better in the Dockerty Cup than they did at any time during the league season.

And with Croatia off-color the Greek-sponsored side, who now have three Englishmen, one Australian, one Yugoslav and one Scot in their line-up, are in with a real chance of success as "pot hunters."

The Hellas midline of Micic, Bedford and Deeming is formidable with Kelly and the veteran Mantrakis playing steadily in the rear. Up front they have plenty of striking power with Ackerley, Damaniakos and the most recent acquisition, Gorrie.

Croatia, the 1968 State League champions, cannot be under-rated despite their unconvincing and narrow wins over Coburg, Wilhelmina and Elwood in the competition.

Injuries to Duncan McKay, Horst Rau and Hammy McMeechan plus some under-par finishing has affected them greatly in recent weeks.

On the ability count together with precision and teamwork, they still rank as the most dangerous side in Victoria.

Croatia's hopes rest mainly in getting off to a good start.

And should they succeed in this direction with all five forwards firing, then leading scorer McIntyre and brilliant ball artist Vojtek could harass the Hellas defence and shoot them to the front.

Still, taking the form book as a guide in recent weeks, Hellas must be regarded at this stage as favorites to redeem themselves for all their cup failures of the past and collect the magnificent trophy at the conclusion of the game.

But it's by no means a certainty that they will.

Likely teams: SM Hellas: 1 Dandrakis, 2 Kelly, 3 Mantrakis, 4 Micic, 5 Bedford, 6 Deeming, 7 Pyrgolis, 8 Kamboropoulos, 9 Ackerley, 10 Gorrie, 11 Damaniakos. Reserves: Roussis, Stevens, Adamzikas.

Croatia: 1 Kovacek, 2 D. McKay, 3 Gunn, 4 McArthur, 5 Bot, 6 Rau, 7 McMeechan, 8 McIntyre, 9 Vojtek, 10 J. McKay, 11 Davies. Reserves: Balic, Glaser, Hargreaves.

Contestants: South Melbourne Hellas v. Croatia.
Venue: Olympic Park.
Date: Sunday, October 5.
Kick off: 3.15 p.m.

The curtain-raiser will be the Harry Armstrong Reserve Cup: Slavia Reserves v. Footscray JUST Reserves.
Kick-off: 1.30 p.m.

CLOSE SEMIFINALS

Croatia v. Elwood Austria 2-1

This was no picnic for Croatia who had to fight all the way to run out winners.

Until they scored their two goals late in the first half, Croatia were hard pressed although they missed a few easy scoring chances.

Despite their deficit at half time, the First Division side kept in the picture with a second half goal but lack of "know how" in front of goal killed their chances of squaring the game.

Scorers: McIntyre, J. McKay and Faas.

George Cross v. SM-Hellas 1-2

Defensive blunders cost George Cross two goals in the first seven minutes and although they fought back magnificently in the first half and were decidedly unlucky, the same could not be said of their efforts in the second half.

Hellas, however, dominated the second half but at times were foolish to fiddle around. The Cross' goal came too late for a revival.

Scorers: Armour, Micic and Damaniakos.

COOK'S GRAND TOUR OF CLUBS

After weeks of uncertainty, Mike De Bruyckere and George Cross are parting company.

De Bruyckere, a former Dutch international who starred with Wilhelmina as a player for several seasons, has been coach to George Cross for the past two years.

He also held similar posts with Wilhelmina and Lions.

A physical training teacher at one of Melbourne's schools, he was offered re-engagement by George Cross but turned this down by informing the Cross management that studies in connection with his job won't permit it.

Reports have reached Melbourne that Willem Schroif, the former Slavia and Victorian goalie, who returned to Europe a few months ago is lying in a Vienna hospital suffering with a broken back which he received playing for FC Vienna. It is feared that the injury may mark the final chapter in the career of the "Black Cat" who played in goal for Czechoslovakia in the final of the 1962 World Cup.

Contrary to widespread belief, the soccer scholarships scheme inaugurated by the VSF last year is very much alive and the awards will be implemented soon when the 1968 winners are announced. The scheme has covered State schools, high schools, technical schools and private schools and the

votes have been recorded by team managers of opposing sides. Soccer skills, general behaviour and scholastic ability will be the three deciding factors in choosing the winners.

Two injured players of the Dockerty Cup finalists are almost certain to be declared 'fit and take their places on Sunday. They are Jimmy Pyrgolis, the Hellas winger, and Hammy McMeechan, the Croatia forward.

The official attendance (paid) at the two Australian Cup quarterfinals last Thursday in Melbourne was 1,052 at the Juventus v. Azzurri match and 795 at the Croatia v. Hakoah game.

The Victorian Soccer Federation is not too happy with the ASF over the payment of the 1967 Pools money. Despite repeated requests for this they are still waiting for it and reckon up in Soccer Headquarters they have either run out of cheques, ball point pens — or money.

Foot-tennis

Results of last Monday's foot-tennis at the St. George-Budapest Club: Wesely-Okon d. Ackerley-Taylor 21-18, 21-14; Venglos-Scheinflug d. Bijkker-Bosklopper 21-6, 21-10; Morgan-Adams won on a forfeit.

Next Monday being a public holiday in Sydney, there will be no matches.

The series will resume the following Monday with these matches: Holmes-Di Santi v. Seni-Coretto; Watkiss-Yaager v. Cliss-Hillary; Zuckerman-Schauman v. Walsh-Jones; Smith-Apostilidis v. Wesely-Okon; Lang-Vasvary v. Clark-Hardy.

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News Kiosk, Corner Elizabeth and Flinders Streets.
Flinders Street Railway Station.

Falconer Newsagent, Collins Street (near Spencer Street).
Newsstand, corner Bourke and Spencer Streets.
Newsagent, Russell Street (near Lonsdale Street).

FOOTSCRAY

La Scala Book Kiosk, 29 Leeds Street.

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Richards Newsagency, 398 Sydney Road.
Newsagent, 710 Sydney Rd.
Newsagent, 321 Lyon St.

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M. Col Newsagent, 260 Lyon Street.

RICHMOND

Newsagent, 150 Lyon St.
Newsagent, 422 Bridge Rd.

SOUTH YARRA

Bodley Newsagency, 487 Chapel Street.

WINDSOR

Newsagency, 16 Chapel St.,

ST. KILDA

Village Bell Newsagency, 161 Acland Street.

Cosmos Book Shop, 133 Acland Street.

Szellig Newsagent, corner Grey and Barkley Streets.

St. Kilda Railway Station.

BIG CATCH FOR SYDNEY CLUBS

Sydney soccer could shortly be richer with star Slavia and Victorian State wing half, Tommy Randles, who has submitted a request for a transfer.

Randles has his sights set on a move to Sydney and is influenced by the fact that his fiancée who arrived here from England two months ago would like to live there.

Randles, 28, comes from Blackpool, joined Slavia three years ago and for the past couple of seasons has been team captain.

In England he played for Cheshire League side, Ellsmere Port, moved to Stoke City and made a few first team appearances for the "Potteries" club before being released and rejoining Ellsmere Port.

Tall and commanding both on the ground and in the air, he has been a regular all through and the driving force of the Slavia side.

At the half-way stage of the past league season Randles took over the centre half berth with considerable success after Billy Cook was forced out of action for the rest of the season with cartilage trouble.

SWANSONG FOR JUV, CROATIA

Playing simple, but straightforward cup-tie soccer without any frills, Azzurri-Perth continued their giant killing act to qualify for the Australia Cup semifinals by defeating Juventus 2-1.

As in their game with South Melbourne-Hellas whom they also kayoed in Melbourne, Azzurri threatened mostly with break-aways and with their famous "double shuffle" all but put the kybosh on Juventus late in the first half with two opportunist goals.

After 33 minutes, Van Oosten received a through lob in the centre and with an acrobatic twist and leap beat the advancing Voigt in the Juventus goal to head home.

Two minutes later, following a corner kick which left the Juventus defence flat-footed, Segon in the open space casually stuck out his foot and scored the simplest of goals.

With a 2-0 lead at half time Azzurri turned round still full of fight and in a strong position.

As in the first half, Juventus had plenty of scoring chances but a mixture of bad luck and sheer bad play plus brilliant goal-keeping by Milanovich kept them scoreless until the 74th minute following an all-out sortie on the Azzurri goal.

Goodwin reduced the arrears with a flashing header to revive the Juventus hopes.

Azzurri, however, stuck manfully to their task until the end and sensing that their opponents were nothing out of the box, played it safe to win.

Scorers: Juventus — Goodwin, Azzurri — Van Oosten, Segon.

Hakoah 2-0

State League champions Croatia who turned on their best display for weeks, but failed to finish on a bright note were surprisingly beaten 2-0 by Hakoah who have been in the doldrums lately in the other Australia Cup match last week.

All due credit to Hakoah even though they did have more than their fair share of luck during the match.

Hakoah took the lead in the first half through Murney and almost on the final whistle Armstrong notched a second to put the issue beyond doubt.

Scorers: Murney and Armstrong.

COACH DEAD

Victorian soccer has lost one of its best known identities with the untimely death of John Hemmerling who coached Slavia to their 1963 Australia Cup win.

He had also coached several other State League clubs, including Polonia and Lions.

John, a native of Poland, represented his country at both soccer and ice hockey before coming to Australia many years ago and until the time of his death had worked with General Motors Holden.

SOCCER WORLD extends deep sympathy to his widow and family.

SYDNEY FINALS

FIRST DIVISION

Second Grade: Prague 2 (S. Franklin) d. APIA 1 (D. Pedula).

Third Grade: Croatia 1 (M. Treasura) v. St. George 1 (S. McMillan).

SECOND DIVISION

Second Grade: Balgownie v. Wests 1-0.

Third Grade: Bankstown v. Sutherland 3-2.

VICTORIAN RESULTS PROGRAM

HARRY ARMSTRONG RESERVE CUP SEMIS
Slavia v. Melbourne 3-1
JUST v. Juventus 2-1.

JUNIOR CUP FINALS
(Saturday at Olympic Park)
U-14: Altona v. Keilor City 11.30 a.m.

U-16: George X v. Polonia Ardeer — 1.00 p.m.

U-18: JUST v. Polonia Ardeer — 3.00 p.m.

GEORGE CROSS SOCCER CLUB MELBOURNE

position vacant Senior Coach

Applications for the position of Senior Coach (playing or non-playing) of the Club for 1969 season may be forwarded to the Secretary, 477 Royal Parade, Parkville, Vic., 3052, preferably before Wednesday, 16th October. Applicants are requested to state their playing and/or coaching experience, salary desired, and whether available for full time or part time employment.

Auburn also win coveted "double"

— By CHARLES SPITERI —

Auburn removed the last shadow of doubt about their superiority in the Second Division by convincingly defeating Western Suburbs 3-0 in the Grand Final at Macarthur Park last Saturday in front of a crowd of 1,420.

One goal up in the first three minutes, Auburn never looked back, and at no stage of the game did they ever look like losing their grip on the match.

Both sides showed the strain and fatigue of their gruelling tussles in the round-robin series.

Consequently, the standard of football never rose to any great heights.

Of the two teams, Western Suburbs played the more constructive soccer, but their forwards were no match for the solid, hard-tackling Auburn defence.

TOO SLOW

Despite some excellent lead-up work by halfbacks, De Santi and Bijkker, Wests' forwards were too slow and inaccurate to be effective.

Tommy Allen put Auburn in the lead in the third minute.

Intercepting a through-pass from Mal O'Neill, he advanced and from 30 yards let go with a scorcher just below the crossbar that Mutton could only half stop before the ball entered the net.

Few minutes before half-time, Adam Moffatt nearly increased Auburn's lead with another unstoppable drive that skimmed the crossbar.

In the second minute after the resumption coach John Nowacki headed in Auburn's second goal from a corner kick well taken by Mal O'Neill.

This goal spurred Auburn into more frequent attacks and Mutton made a magnificent save off Moffatt soon after.

Auburn's outstanding forward in this game was left-winger Mal O'Neill, who time and again split wide open Wests' defence with his long through-passes.

NOWACKI'S FINALE

Nowacki booted in the last goal of the match seconds before the final whistle, thus ending his colorful playing career scoring two goals in the Grand Final.

In the dressing room after the match, Nowacki said: "This is the climax of a successful season for Auburn, and considering that we lost only two matches throughout the whole season, I think we fully deserve promotion."

"Today was my last game. I've played soccer for 25 years and I think it's about time to give it up."

"However, I'll be coaching Auburn next season and although I realise we need reinforcement, we have the nucleus of a good First Division side", he added.

Wests' Joe Marston said after the match that he was naturally disappointed as "Wests are capable of better football but it was not our day. (Wests also lost the Second Grade Grand Final to Balgownie in the earlier game.)"

"Auburn had to many guns for us."

The Grand Final brought to a conclusion the 1968 round-robin series which was organised by the Council of the Second Division Clubs and although its success was due to a combined effort by all concerned credit must be extended to John Saxton, George Streeter and Ron Duncan and to Granville officials Des Barker and Ron Simmonds who assisted in many ways.

INTERSTATE RESULTS

Queensland (Grand Final): Merton v. Hollandia 1-1.

Tasmania: Meteor v. University 1-0.

Western Australia (D'Ossogna Cup semifinal): Cracovia v. Cottesloe 2-1.

READERS' LETTERS

WHO CARES?

There was so little enthusiasm in Newcastle for the match that the late cancellation of Sunday's Sydney v. Northern NSW fixture in Sydney went almost unnoticed.

The North and the South seem to have drifted apart, soccer-wise, and the old fervors the annual match once caused are no longer evident.

The North-South match was once one of the season's showpieces.

It was invariably played on Anzac Day — one season in Sydney, the next in Newcastle — and the fixture was always a sell-out.

Some of Australia's "greats" played for their districts but the Southern side invariably included more than a sprinkling of players who, having learnt their soccer in the North, had answered the call of better employment in Sydney.

There was a chance at one stage that it would be decided that a player would be eligible only for the district of his birth.

However, World War II put a stop to that — and also to the succession of a once great annual football event.

Paul MacKenzie, Newcastle.

PLEASE EXPLAIN

In your September 6 issue a paragraph on Page 7 column 4, reads: "Eric Norman (Juventus), and Vic Janczyk (Polonia), lead the Players Voting Award, followed by Alan Stenhouse (Hakoah), Alan Sefton (Melbourne) and Jimmy Rooney (Lions), all on 17. The winner will be announced next week in 'Soccer World'."

I have since made a thorough check of your September 13 and September 20 issues and have failed to find out who won.

Could you please let me know who the top 10 eventually were and how many points each obtained?

In your September 13 issue you have Swoboda down for four goals and you have listed him as a Croatia player. He plays for Polonia, doesn't he?

Could you also please include Polish results in your page 6 Scoreboard?

Z. J. Zyda, Beresfield (NSW).

● We published the Melbourne award winner last week (Rooney of Lions). Sometimes Polish results are not transmitted; when they are, we always include them. As for Swoboda — you are right, he is with Polonia now. —Editor.

NOT OFFICIAL

Hakoah	1	1	5	3	3
Prague	1	1	8	6	3
APIA	—	3	—	7	3
Hellenic	1	1	1	3	3

The above table was NOT the final official table for the recent round-robin — but it should have been.

Had no extra-time been played the finalists would (and should) have been Hakoah and Prague.

As your Paul Dean says: "statistics can prove anything" (Soccer World 20.9.68) — admittedly in a different context from my subject — yet I wish that someone would have taken the above table as the only fair and just method of providing the Grand Finalists!

To be brief, I oppose the set-up which brought about the 1968 Grand Finalists.

There are many arguments I could call upon but I base my case on the fact that in competitions which are decided by "goal average," it is a prerequisite that all matches must be of the same duration.

Extra-time for one team and not for another makes a farce of goal averages.

In conclusion may I ask a few questions?

When did the Federation decide on the competition conditions?

Were these conditions publicised? I am an avid soccer fan and read anything (even the morning papers!) about soccer on which I can lay my hands.

The first I knew of extra-time was in the reports of the early matches of the Second Division round-robin.

My first reaction was the poor old ref has booted again but, of course it is I who was wrong.

I feel sure that had I known before the round-robin began I would have written about it feeling as I do so strongly on the subject.

Let's hope such a ridiculous set-up will never happen again.

"Spectator."

(Name and address withheld at writer's request).

ADELAIDE NEWS

POLONIA AGAIN TAKES FED. CUP

— From ALLAN CRISP —

Adelaide Polonia won their fourth Federation Cup final with a thrilling 2-1 extra time fight back after Juventus had dominated the final half.

Polonia's previous cup wins were in 1952 (their foundation year), 1954 and 1966.

Juventus entered the final as underdogs because of their makeshift defence.

Their defence did well, however, and in the final analysis it was their inability to match Polonia's more imaginative attack which cost Juventus the cup.

The big game opened at a cracking pace with both sides playing attractive, attacking football.

At the 15 minute mark the honors were clearly with Juventus.

They should have scored when Giovanni Meneghetti crossed from the left and Roger Romanowicz punched the ball away under pressure.

The ball fell at the feet of Alvaro Oliveira who smacked a powerful shot from close range, but Romanowicz recovered to save.

Juventus hit the front two minutes before half-time and the goal was a real gem.

Severino Zamprogno nearly rounded Rick Hamence and crossed to Joe Serafini, who hooked a great first time shot past Romanowicz.

From the restart, Polonia launched an all-out onslaught on the Juventus goal and provided thrills galore as scoring chances missed by inches.

Justice was served midway through the half when Polonia striker, Eddy Typek rocketed a tremendous shot into the top left-hand corner of the net after Gene Mielnik had made the opening.

Polonia had the best of the first extra-time period and scored the winning goal in the sixth minute when Mielnik almost lifted the roof off the net with a shattering drive.

Polonia were worthy winners of the hard-fought final which was marred only by isolated niggling between Marian Kolecki (Polonia) and Valentino Frattini (Juventus) and a sensational after-match "explosion" from Frattini.

The final whistle had hardly subsided when Frattini rained a series of

punches at Polonia playing-coach, Eugene Nowak.

Referee Mick O'Malley booked the Juventus full-back and forwarded a formal charge of striking an opponent.

Details:
Polonia 2 (Typek 65 min., Mielnik 96 min.) d. Juventus 1 (Serafini 43 min.).

Polonia: Romanowicz, Heppenstall, Hamence, Kouzapa, Nowak, Zurawski, Typek, Mielnik, H. Kolecki, Manka, M. Kolecki.
Juventus: Fassina (Bosio), Frattini, Baggio (Rapioni), West, Sacco, Perin, Zamprogno, Oliveira, Serafini, Herczeg, Meneghetti.
Referee: M. O'Malley.
Crowd: 5,250.

Hellas tipped

WA-Hellas, winners of the 1968 Ampol Cup and league championship double, should be too powerful for USC Lion in the 1969 Australia Cup elimination match at Hindmarsh tomorrow (Saturday, October 5).

Hellas should account for Lion despite the absence of former Glasgow Celtic professional, Alex Byrne, who is recovering from a knee operation.

Lion will be handicapped without their stopper, John Cattaneach, who fought a losing battle against injury and suspension.

Federation Cup finalists, Polonia and Juventus, will clash in another Australia Cup play-off at Hindmarsh on Wednesday night (October 9).

The night fixture promises to be a "needle" game with Juventus seeking vengeance over their narrow conquerors of last Saturday.

Polonia emerged from the final unhindered by injury while Juventus had injuries to Joe Baggio and Luigi Fassina.

Polonia striker, John Marciniak, may have recovered from the leg injury which forced him out of the final, but Polonia may decide not to alter their winning combination.

This should be another even game with Polonia again successful unless Juventus can muster greater forward cohesion.

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